

Claims

[c1]

7. A method and system for interfacing between a steel construction or manufacturing project design application in a CAD/CAM environment and an Internet based steel products procurement and futures and options trading system, comprising the following steps of:

- (a) Prompting a user in a CAD/CAM environment to browse and locate module of information stored in memory on a user database that reflects a bill of materials of a ferrous and non-ferrous metal construction or manufacturing project,
- (b) uploading via a communication channel said module of information to a host terminal in the same format as the user CAD/CAM system environment,
- (c) separating said module of information into distinct physical and chemical properties components before storing on the host CAD/CAM database,
- (d) Designing futures and forward contracts for each component using guidance from the project schedule and specification of the bill of materials,
- (e) store designed contracts in a CAD/CAM environment on a host database,
- (f) prompting a user via an communication channel to login into the host database then view, accept or seek amendment to designed contracts,
- (g) prompting the user to set a spot price to initiate a dynamic trading process, predominately reversed auctions, said spot price is tied to the Purchasing Magazine Steel Index.

[c2]

- (h) displaying on a host terminal said contract on a computer displaying device, represented by visual linked objects colored red, yellow, green, white, blue, and orange, each color reflecting a specific characteristics of a contract,
- (i) a plurality of users login to a host database and using cursors controlled through the use of mouse devices, superimpose them over a specific visual link object triggering a pop-up interface that reflects a text description of the characteristics of a specific contract,
- (j) a plurality of users using cursor controlled through the use of mouse devices, superimposes over a specific area on the pop-up interface triggering a device driver that couples an operating system to a host computer system for the generation of programming values applied to a computer interface to establish

an operating mode of a predetermined sub-element of controlling device,

(k) a plurality of users using input devices such as keyboards connected to user terminals, input data that reflects a user's desired offer price for one or more component of a bill of materials contract,

(l) the plurality of inputted data generates a linear graph on an interface at the host terminal, of which each component's resulting graph are displayed on a computer displaying device,

(m) the ultimate generation of a mean linear graph for each contract reflecting the bidding and settlement prices for the combined components of a bill of material,

(n) using the settlement prices of daily transaction to generate new floating prices dubbed the "CyberSTEEL Index", from which the CyberSTEEL Triangle Index is evolve.

(o) using the "CyberSTEEL Index" and "CyberSTEEL Triangle Index" as a benchmark and mathematical tools to settle transactions and design price risk management solutions for trading initiated on the above platform,

(p) said CyberSTEEL Index represents the moving averages of a specific component of a contract's daily, weekly, monthly and annually settlement price after a reverse auction that was initiated by the Purchasing Magazine Steel price Index.

[c3]

The method and system according to claim 1, further comprising a computer aided design system having (1) a first networking circuitry containing a user terminal, (2) a computer aided design system application at both user and host terminal and (3) a data warehouse subsystem application at both user and host terminal;

an Internet based trading floor computer system having a second networking circuitry; and communication circuitry for transferring the bill of materials data from said first network circuitry to said second networking circuitry, whereby the computer aided design system application is executed to locate the bill of materials, the data warehouse subsystem application is loaded from within the executed computer aided design system, and the loaded data warehouse subsystem application is operated from within the executed computer aided

design system application to retrieve the bill of materials from the user data warehouse subsystem storage and cause the communication circuitry to the bill of materials data.

A system for transferring bill of materials data comprising;

a first computer for performing computer aided design, said first computer having a computer aided design system application and a data subsystem application;

a second computer for performing Internet based futures and option trading control functions;

a third computer having memory for storing the bill of materials in a database; and a networking circuitry for transferring the bill of materials data among said first, second and third computers.

[c4]